

REMARKS

The allowance of claims 1-3, 8, 10, 12, and 17-20 is noted and appreciated.

Claims 4-7, 9, 11, 13-16 and 21-32 remain in the application since it is respectfully submitted that claim 22 as now amended, from which they depend, is patentable over the cited references and its allowance will result in the allowance of these rejected dependent claims.

As indicated in the last filed Amendment, certain of the prior art references do disclose some of the features set forth in the some of the dependent claims, as stated in the Office Action and in particularly when discussing Rauschenberger (EP 0 955 224) (claim 7); Roman (US 5,707,030) (claims 13 and 23); Toggweiler (CH 310,381) (claim 16); Streit et al. (US 4,319,762) (claim 21); Shyshka et al (CA 2,271,906) and Barnes (US 5,230,282) (claims 4-6 and 26); Barnes (claim 27); and Streit (claim 29). However, none of these cited references, and in particular the newly cited Salmon et al. (US 6,550,792) discloses the combination of a plurality of rigid containers and the dolly as now defined in amended claim 22.

Claim 22 has been amended to specify that the upper support shelf has upwardly extending sidewalls (14), a back wall (13), and a front rim (15) as discussed in the Specification, second paragraph of page 3 and lines 1-4 (page 6), which positions the container on the upper shelf whereby the lid, matingly engages and closes the top opening of the container mounted on the upper shelf when the lid is in the closed position, as clearly shown in Figures 3 and 4 of the drawings and discussed specifically in the last paragraph of page 7 of the Specification. Salmon does show a receptacle having spaced support shelves for storing containers thereon. However, the upper shelf does not have a front rim and thus would not ensure that the container is correctly positioned on the shelf to ensure the accurate and complete positioning of the container thereon. Most importantly, the lid 48 of Salmon does not matingly engage and close the container mounted on the upper shelf when the lid is in a closed position, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. The lid in Salmon merely extends over the top opening of the upper container and does not contact or engage the container in any manner. This relationship is critical in Applicant's invention since the proper positioning of the container on the upper

support shelf by the sidewalls, back wall, and front rim, ensures that the lid matingly engages and closes the top opening of the container to provide weather and animal protection to the container as shown in Figs. 3, 4, and 6.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Salmon does not show or suggest Applicant's combination of a plurality of rigid containers and dolly, and in particular the accurate positioning of the container on the upper shelf to ensure mating engagement with the lid, as now defined in amended claim 22. Furthermore, none of the other cited references Rauschenberger et al. (EP 0 955 224), Roman (US 5,707,030), Toggweiler (CH 310,381), Streit et al. (US 4,319,762), Shyshka et al. (CA 2,271,906), and Barnes (US 5,230,282) disclose these particular features set forth in amended claim 22.

In view of the above discussion and amendment to claim 22, it is believed that claim 22, together with claims 4-7, 9-11, 13, 16, 19-21, and 23-32 depended therefrom are allowable and action to that affect is respectfully requested.